

**PARK BOARD MEETING  
Foster Community Center  
March 8, 2017**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Veronica Gracia-Wing, Jim McClurken, Rita O'Brien, Clayton King, Bryan Beverly, Paulette, Carter-Scott, Rick Kibbey

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rosalinda Hernandez

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation Director; Kellie Brown, Board Secretary; Jody Washington, City Council; Stephen Vrla, MSU

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:01 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Capital Improvement Projects**

Veronica Gracia-Wing stated the Board may vote as a unit or as individuals.

Gib King asked to go over the CIP projects individually.

Brett Kaschinske explained the priority category and the creek crossing project and the reason for it is to connect the trail between the two parks and over the drain.

Rita O'Brien inquired about the Baker Donora project.

Kaschinske stated the figure was based on a conversation he had with Joan Nelson and the operating costs involved with the Hunter Park greenhouse. This is a Block by Block (B3) project and the amount listed was to operate the greenhouse each year.

O'Brien inquired who is requesting the project.

Kaschinske stated it has been discussed and an option for another community center, but first need to install the infrastructure and a commitment of funds from them.

Rick Kibbey stated Baker Donora Focus Center is no longer there and the City shut it down for code reasons. However, there is now a Head Start program there. Twice repairs were shot down to restart the focus center by Head Start and them not allowing repairs to be made. A greenhouse is not a stand alone building, but is part of a vital hub and needs social infrastructure. Kibbey is not sure how this could be operated, because they struggled with a community garden.

Kaschinske clarified Code Compliance did shut down the center but it is not a city building. Ivan Love of Head Start is the owner of the building and they have made the necessary repairs.

Kaschinske stated he could not put up a building for \$100,000. There have been multiple meetings held with the neighborhood and there is a process taking place for the neighborhood.

King inquired if there is an amount of money to work with for the projects listed.

Kaschinske stated he has not received an amount for projects.

Board members chose their projects individually with the following results:

FY18 CIP Proposed Project List				
Project	Cost	Description	Votes	Order
Kids Camp	\$37,000	Funding for one Kids Camp site - Cumberland. Summer staff payroll for camp at Cumberland and Pre and Post care at Letts and Gier, \$34,624. \$2,376 supply.	10	2nd
City-wide Repair and Maintenance	\$300,000	Funding to address repair and maintenance issues in parks as problems arise throughout the fiscal year	7	3rd
Parking Lot Repair	\$250,000	Various parking lots (Gier, Foster, Sycamore, Davis East) have pot holes, severe cracking, missing junk asphalt and parking blocks instead of curb which are deteriorating and dangerous.	3	5th
Splash Pad	\$300,000	Installation of splash pad, water system and electricity. Site to be determined with community input. This would provide a Spray ground which would not require lifeguards, water would be motion activated and they are the current trend. Similar to the splash pad at Hunter Park.	1	7th
Hunter's Ridge	\$25,000	Creek crossing to connect Parks over drain	2	6th
Grant Match Money	\$200,000	Funds available for grant match projects	12	1st
Groesbeck Golf Course Entrance	\$385,000	Establishment of a more accessible and visible entrance to Groesbeck Golf Course concrete patio with tent to accommodate 250 people for events	3	5th
Groesbeck Golf Course	\$43,000 Concrete \$65,000 Wooden Deck	Concrete patio or wood deck with tent to accommodate events and outings	6	4th
Playground Installation and Renovation	\$250,000	Maintain current playground equipment and install new and different features at Schmidt Community Center.	2	6th
Risdale Park	\$200,000	Final stage of Risdale Park. Entire project is \$1,500,000 with \$800,000 from CDBG grant. Consultant paid prior to grant funds.	3	5th
Canoe/Kayak Launches	\$40,000	Installation of ADA canoe launches at Moores Park and Moores River Drive	2	6th
Gier Ballfield Light Replacement	\$650,000	Replace existing lights and poles at all three fields	0	

Youth Baseball/Softball Field Renovations	\$150,000	Improvements to Davis and/or Quentin. Would put in dugouts, fencing to control play area and separate spectators from coaches and youth, which eliminates potential confrontations and increases safety.	1	7th
Basketball Complex	\$300,000	Outdoor 4 court basketball court complex with a fence around courts. Potential locations: Davis Park or Marshall Park	2	6th
Baker Donora	\$80,000	Greenhouse needs \$100,000 funding each year for operation	0	
City Market Boat Docks	\$50,000	Accessible public boat launch for access to the Grand and Red Cedar Rivers	2	6th
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,260,000- \$3,282,000</b>			

### **MNRTF Grant Resolutions – 3 Canoe/Kayak Launches**

Kaschinske stated 75% of grants go to land acquisition and 25% goes to other projects. Trails and Water Trails are dominating projects.

Kaschinske provided a PowerPoint presentation on the types of docks proposed, the three locations and the development plan for each site.

King inquired on the CIP list if the \$40,000 was for this.

Kaschinske stated it could be or the grant match funds could be used.

Kibbey stated these are a stone throw from each other and there is nothing below the north dam.

Kaschinske stated there is a launch at Tecumseh Park. He would like one at the north dam, however there is no location to place it.

Gracia-Wing inquired if this would be it for launches for a while.

Kaschinske stated yes, unless there is an option for one at Fulton/Fine Parks.

Gracia-Wing inquired if it would change relations with River Town Adventures.

Kaschinske stated he has met with them regarding these projects.

Gracia-Wing inquired if we have a lease or monetary support from River Town.

Kaschinske stated no.

Gracia-Wing stated there could be heavy wear and tear from their use of the launches and that needs to be considered.

Bryan Beverly moved to support the three resolutions to apply for the grants; Rick Kibbey seconded. 7 yeas; 0 nays

**Motion carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Deer Social Sustainability**

Kaschinske stated there are three vendors who could do the study. The sub-committee, Kaschinske, King and McClurken, met with Stephen Vrla to review the responses and the costs did change. Originally it was thought the phone survey would cost more than the mail survey, however it turned out to be the opposite.

Stephen Vrla stated at the last meeting he reviewed the three phases; first phase was to create a survey asking the questions, second is to obtain a vendor to administer the survey and third is to take the data and analyze it.

Vrla stated he contacted vendors who could implement the survey, which included MSU Office of Survey Research, Marketing Resource Groups, and Mitchell Research and Communications.

MSU would do a mail survey which would be a post card, sent survey and no response follow-up. The survey requires at least 400 responses. This would cost \$21,215 which includes \$4,500 in overhead.

Marketing Resource Group in Lansing recommended a 10-minute phone survey with a cost of \$5,760. There would be an increase in price if the time for the survey increased to 12 to 14 minutes.

Mitchell Research Communications also recommended a phone survey, based on 10 minutes the cost would be \$7,000.

Paulette Carter-Scott inquired about putting the survey in the Lansing State Journal to mail back or people could go online or call in.

The problem with using the Lansing State Journal is not having control of who is responding, resident or nonresident, which ward in the City, etc.

Kaschinske stated the goal is to obtain a survey which is scientifically sound and the committee is partial to Mitchell Research.

King clarified the purpose of the discussion today is to make a plan and decide the next step.

Jody Washington recommended using a company within the City.

Gracia-Wing reminded the Board it was the sub-committees job to come to the entire Board with a recommendation.

King inquired about the phone survey and additional costs for call backs.

Kaschinske stated if the cost is based on time it takes for the survey, call backs would take more time and the costs presented here tonight would not match what would be budgeted from these proposals.

Kibbey inquired if we want to consider variable areas which are experiencing problems with deer.

King made a motion for Marketing Resource Group and set a budget of \$10,000; seconded by Carter-Scott.

McClurken asked for a \$2,000 stipend for Stephen Vrla; seconded by Kibbey.  
King amended his original motion to increase the budget to \$12,000; seconded by Kibbey

Kibbey asked if we are going to direct a specific set of locations to ensure areas heavily impacted by deer are included.

Gracia-Wing stated she would leave that decision to Stephen Vrla.

King stated he would like equal input by Wards.

O'Brien recommended capping Marketing Research Group at \$8,000 and a \$2,000 stipend for Vrla.

Gracia-Wing reiterated the motion is for Marketing Research Group, and survey would be stratified by multiple locations and demographically.

King amended his motion for a budget of \$10,000 which would include the \$2,000 stipend for Vrla and include call backs on the survey; seconded by Carter Scott. 7 years; 0 days

#### **Motion carried**

#### **UPDATES**

**Women's Historical Center** – Sub-committee still planning to meet to discuss this property and other historical properties for future discussions when historical property is at the center of issues.

**Groesbeck Survey** – Questions are being reviewed. This survey will go out this year.

**Park Board Rules** – The rules have been adopted and the change is reflected on this agenda with Statement of Citizens last on the agenda. This follows Council meetings.

O'Brien stated she thought there had been discussion about the public adding items to the agenda.

Gracia-Wing stated she will review previous board minutes for the answer.

#### **REMARKS BY BOARD MEMBERS**

McClurken stated Marty Eichinger will be in town in April and will be attending the meeting for an update on the Windlord.

Gracia-Wing asked that Marty Eichinger be added to the April agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Kellie Brown, Park Board Secretary  
Approved May 10, 2017